NOTICE OF SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT OF
911 TELEPHONIC COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS UPGRADE

Pursuant to Section 2.2-4303 (E) of the Code of Virginia the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors authorizes a sole source procurement for an upgrade to the 911 Phone System from Wireless Communications, Inc. (WCI) for an amount not to exceed $294,018.00. The authorization permits the contract to be awarded without solicitation of competing proposals or bids. The authorization is based on a finding that WCI is the sole source available for the services necessary for the project. The authorization is effective June 29, 2016. The Board of Supervisors for Tazewell County, the governing body of the locality, has determined that WCI is the only source practically available for the goods and services to be procured, based on the following facts which were presented to the Board in public session at the Board's June 28th, 2016 meeting: Tazewell and Russell Counties have been awarded a $294,018 grant from the Virginia E-911 Services Board to upgrade our 911 Phone Systems; this is a 100% grant and Tazewell County is the acting fiscal agent for the entire project. The project is known as a "system refresh" and our existing licenses will be transferred to the new 911 Phone System at a discount. The existing equipment which requires a "refresh" is Airbus DS Communications (Airbus) Equipment which is licensed for our use and is supported by a maintenance agreement. Both the licenses and the maintenance agreements may be voided if maintenance, installation of new equipment, training and ongoing service is not performed by a certified Airbus Dealer. Further, it is imperative for 911 that whomever services the equipment is capable of providing such service within two hours, such that critical public safety communications are not impaired for any extended period of time.

Wireless Communications, Inc. (WCI) is the only certified dealer for our area and has installed and maintained the various Airbus systems in Southwest Virginia including the Tazewell and Russell systems. WCI is the only certified Airbus dealer capable of providing service within the critical two hour window. Both Tazewell and Russell Counties are currently covered under a 24/7 support contract from Wireless Communications, Inc. and Airbus. Therefore, unless both Russell and Tazewell Counties want to replace their existing Airbus equipment with equipment from another manufacturer at great expense, WCI is the only source practically available for the services needed for the refresh paid for by the 100% grant. Based on these facts as validated by Airbus in writing to the County Attorney, the Board has found WCI to be the sole source.